

(F) Please enter the following Abstract beginning at Page 23, line 1 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a shirred tubular food casing based on a thermoplastic blend of at least one polyamide and/or copolyamide and at least one hydrophilic component. The casing is biaxially stretch-oriented and impregnated on the inside and/or outside with a component which allows the pleats which are formed during shirring of the casing to adhere to each other. The component preferably comprises at least one polymer. The casing is preferably shirred at a ratio of 80 : 1 to 500 : 1. The inventive shirred casing is particularly stable from a mechanical perspective and can therefore be used especially for the production of cooked sausages, scalded-emulsion sausages, and small sausages on fully automatic sausage stuffing and clipping apparatuses.